

Cohasset Mariner

The Mariner (and supplements) is a paid circulation newspaper published every Thursday at 541 Plain St., Marshfield, Mass. 02050 for and about the residents of Cohasset. Telephone 383-6321 or 837-3500. Mailing address: Box 71, Cohasset, Mass. 02025. Second class postage paid at Marshfield, Mass. 02050.

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As the Mariner goes to press Tuesday night, all news and advertising copy must be received by Monday at 5 p.m. Classified advertising must be received by Monday at noon. Readers are invited to submit personal items, accounts of social functions, meetings, weddings and engagements. Photographs (black and white glossy) are also welcome.

Subscription rates: in-town \$8 for one year and \$14 for two years; out-of-town \$10 for one year and \$7 for nine months.

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Editorial

Guns For Auxiliaries

If you were an armed felon (of the type that sometimes frequents Cohasset), would you take time to inspect the arm patch of a policeman, trying to determine whether he was an auxiliary police officer or a regular member of the force?

Civil Defense Director Lester Hiltz, head of the auxiliary police, doesn't think so, nor do two out of three selectmen. Nor, for that matter does Police Chief Randolph Feola. They support the auxiliary police's carrying of firearms.

"They'd (criminals) as soon shoot you as look at you," said Hiltz at a Selectmen's meeting last week. His arguments are sufficiently convincing to persuade the Mariner (although with reluctance) that auxiliary police are entitled to the same protection afforded regular officers.

Auxiliary Sgt. Yokum said he has often patrolled the Common or the Village when he's been summoned to join a regular police officer on an emergency. Why, in such cases should one officer be armed and the other not?

Selectman Arthur Clark observed that he has never been aware of any gun abuse by auxiliary police. Moreover, he's found them to be a well-trained group.

Chief Feola commented this week that auxiliary officers are indeed well trained. All officers have completed a four-week police combat training course that's registered and approved by the National Rifle Association police qualification program.

An auxiliary officer couldn't carry a gun without passing the training program. Permission from the chief of police is also a requirement before a gun permit is issued.

Chief Feola finds no problem with allowing the auxiliary force to carry guns. He is the expert in this area and as Cohasset's chief law enforcement officer, we trust his judgement.

At the same time, we wonder when the gun-toting parade will end. Are meter maids next?

Amen To Circle ...

To the Editor:

I just received my copy of this week's feature article on the Circle of Gold.

The only comment I have to make is AMEN!!! I am so happy that finally someone has printed the absolute truth and personal feelings of so many people in town.

A lot of people are now realizing this is an obsession with some men and women and are just plain sick and tired of these crazy "circles."

I also want to thank you for the Page 1 feature on the RIDE-A-BIKE on Sunday.

Maria A. Plante
Cohasset

... Of Gold Article

To the Editor:

Congratulations to Judy Epstein on her fine article on the "Circle of Gold." If this item has angered some folks, as I have heard it has, then they must be the ones to gain most from this "scheme."

I wish to thank her and the

Mariner for your honest coverage of Cohasset events.

It is wonderful to read Cohasset news which is accurate and to the point.

Continued success to you and the rest of the staff.

Irene Brown
Cohasset

Teachers Spokesman Urges Support Of Taxbreaker Bill

John Leary, Jr., president of the Cohasset Teachers Association this week urged all taxpayers to support the Taxbraker legislation now before the Massachusetts Legislature. Taxbraker would raise an additional \$351 million in revenue.

Taxbraker, (H2476) would guarantee property tax reductions of 20% for more than two-thirds of all Massachusetts homeowners, and reductions of 10 to 19% for the remainder. It would also pass along reductions to renters.

"The main thing about Taxbraker is that it would guarantee property tax reductions far in excess of Governor King's tax cap proposal, and with no loss of local services," said Jack.

Taxbraker would accomplish that goal by closing two major tax loopholes now existing in Massachusetts. First, it would raise \$311 million by imposing a 7.5 percent excise tax on professional services that are currently untaxed, and seldom used by middle and low-income taxpayers, such as engineering, accounting and legal fees; stockbrokers fees; interior designers

fees; and memberships in country clubs.

Secondly, Taxbraker would raise an additional \$40 million through a 1/8% tax on commercial bank assets. Commercial banks are private banks that mainly lend money to corporations. Until recently, only mutual banks were taxed at 1/8%, but Congress has passed legislation allowing for such a tax to be imposed on commercial bank assets.

Leary explained that Taxbraker, which is supported by a broad coalition of thirty-two (32) citizen, senior citizen, taxpayer, and labor groups would actually help the industrial growth climate in Massachusetts, since it would also guarantee a 10% cut in industrial property taxes. Commercial property taxes and open space land taxes would remain the same.

"Taxpayers must be aware of a recent Massachusetts Supreme Court decision that threatens the Classification Amendment passed by a two-to-one margin last fall," added Mr. Leary.

In Tregor vs. Boards of Assessors of Boston, the state high court ruled that commercial property owners could use

individual abatements to achieve the same effects 100% revaluation would have accomplished; they could use such abatements to lower their assessment and tax level to the lowest level, that of the private homeowner.

"Tregor means that despite the overwhelming mandate of the voters last fall, the effects of 100% revaluation, which was defeated, would be passed on: hundreds of millions of dollars in taxes would be shifted through these abatements, back onto local property taxpayers. Only the Taxbraker can ensure that such a process does not occur. By making Taxbraker law, and closing the loopholes it promises to close, an equitable means of property tax reform will be achieved, which will guarantee property tax cuts with no loss in services," said Mr. Leary.

"Taxbraker is the only tax reform legislation that will achieve those dual objectives. Governor King's cap would cut taxes by only 7%, and result in massive reductions in services. We're urging all responsible people to support Taxbraker by communicating their support to their legislators."

Around Town Hall

CIVIL DEFENSE EXERCISE

Cohasset will take part in a state-wide Civil Defense mobilization operation called 'Beaufort 79' on June 9 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. All public works department heads will take part in the simulated natural disaster exercises radioed in to the town. The town will work out problems and plans as though a disaster were really happening. The general public will not be involved.

Civil Defense Director Lester Hiltz said that Cohasset is in need of an underground emergency operating facility. The building to be used as headquarters during the exercises will probably be at the old Water Department building on Elm Street, Hiltz said.

HEAD MEETING

An all town department head meeting will be held in the Town Hall auditorium on Thursday May 24.

DREDGING AWARDED

A \$5,400 dredging contract was awarded to Julian Construction Company for maintenance work at Government Island pier. The project is expected to be completed within six days.

FREQUENCY NEEDED

Joe McCool, a representative of Motorola, informed Selectmen last week that the old radio police equipment that will be handed down for use by other departments will require a local government frequency. New police radios for purposes of mutual aid with Plymouth County are expected in approximately three months, McCool said.

He is requesting a frequency causing the least interfer-



ence with other users on local government frequency.

JURORS SELECTED

Five jurors were selected to serve in civil and criminal cases at Dedham Superior Court: Paul Carlson of Old Coach Road, Robert Jordan of Atlantic Avenue, Peter Smith of Fisher Road, Peter Tague of Atlantic Avenue and William Smart of Nichols Road.

STATUS QUESTIONED

Selectmen have forwarded to Town Counsel J. Blake Thaxter, the question whether to remove the municipal employee status that was given to many town board members by a former board of selectmen in 1962. Selectman Arthur Clark said he would like to know the ramifications of removing this status.

INSPECTORS NAMED

Building Inspector James Litchfield has appointed Lawrence Mitchell as the Plumbing and Gas Inspector and Robert Rotchford as assistant Plumbing/Gas Inspector.

Plumbing and gas inspection fees now are: \$10 for gas or plumbing inspection; \$15 for dual gas and plumbing inspection; \$10 for gas water heater inspection; and \$15 for a call back.

CS LIST CHANGES

The most current Civil Service list sent last week to the Selectmen's office include the names of Paul Rooney, Robert Jackson and Herbert Williams, respectively. These men are all on the permanent intermittent list in Cohasset; they have been invited to attend the next Selectmen's meeting.

POSTS REMOVED

Highway Superintendent Harold Litchfield has informed Selectmen that people have been driving over and breaking off the cement posts in the Sandy Beach parking lot. He recommended that the remainder of the posts be removed.

LITTER INSPECTED

At the suggestion of Selectman Rocco Laugelle, Fire Chief Piepenbrink will be apprised of the paper littered behind the shopping centers on Route 3A.

BREAKWATER REPAIRS

Scituate has advertised for construction bids to repair the Cohasset harbor breakwater that lies in Scituate waters, Cohasset wants to be advised, Selectman Arthur Clark said, on the exact nature of construction efforts, particularly if they are to occur during the summer.

